

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 March 2005 (03.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/019033 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B65B**
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2004/027186
- (22) International Filing Date: 20 August 2004 (20.08.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/496,445 20 August 2003 (20.08.2003) US
- (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): **MULTIVAC, INC.** [US/US]; 11021 N.W. Pomona Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64153 (US). **RDI-IBA TECHNOLOGY GROUP** [US/US]; 151 Heartland Blvd., Edgewood, NY 11747-8374 (US).

Oakbrook, IL 60523 (US). **DITCHFIELD, Patrick** [US/US]; 3454 NO. Natoma Ake, Chicago, IL 60634 (US).

(74) Agents: **DONAHUE III, Denis, J.M.** et al.; Husch & Eppenberger, LLC, 190 Carondelet Plaza, Suite 600, St. Louis, MO 63105 (US).

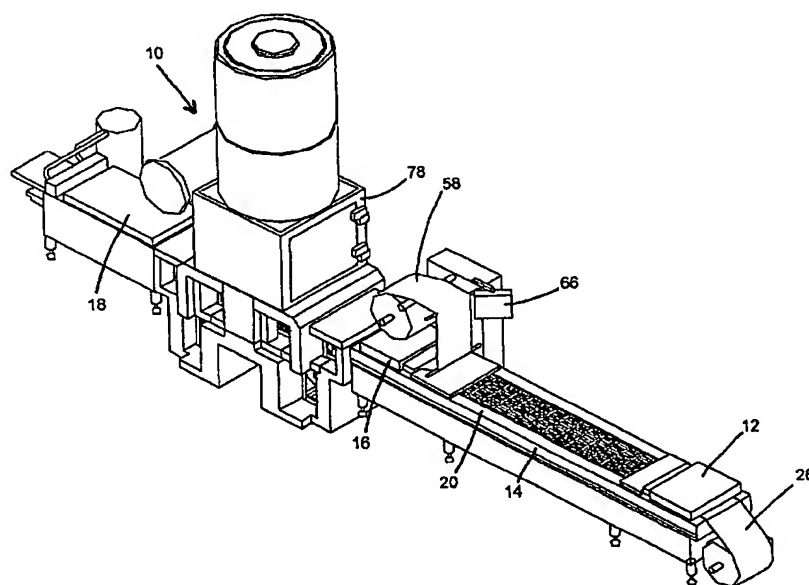
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SLOMSKI, Douglas, B.** [US/US]; 2107 Grand Blvd., Suite 504, Kansas City, MO 64108 (US). **GALLOWAY, Richard** [US/US]; 151 Heartland Blvd., Edgewood, NY 11747-8374 (US). **POTH, Steven** [US/US]; 2015 Spring Road, Suite 650,

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **INLINE PROCESSING AND IRRADIATION SYSTEM**



(57) Abstract: A stream of products is packaged and biologically treated by the system. The system has an index conveyor with a filling station and a packaging station. Discrete packages are filled with the stream of products, sealed and moved on an index conveyor. The system moves the discrete packages an irradiation chamber at a steady rate on a continuous speed conveyor. A controller matches the cyclical rate of the index conveyor with the steady rate of the continuous speed conveyor and uses a buffer to transition from the cyclical rate to the steady rate.

WO 2005/019033 A2



SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*